

Post-Kyoto Regime

Discussion in Japan

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Post-Kyoto Regime

Japan's Central Environment Council

- Top-level governmental advisory body on environment policy, comprised of a variety of advisors including lawyers, scientists, economists, former government officials and advisors from industries, NGOs and local communities
- Discussed what considerations Japan should bear in mind as a basis for international negotiations on the climate regime beyond 2012
- Issued an interim report, incorporating comments from inside and outside Japan.

Basic Considerations in Approaching the Climate Regime beyond 2012

1. Maintaining Progress towards Meeting the Ultimate Objective of the UNFCCC
2. Bringing the Kyoto Protocol into Effect and Achieving the Commitments
3. Achieving Global Participation
4. Ensuring Equity Based on the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities
5. Negotiations Building on Existing International Agreements
6. International Consensus Building Process by National Governments with the Participation of Various Actors
7. Making the Environment and Economy Mutually Reinforcing

Maintaining Progress towards Meeting the Ultimate Objective of the UNFCCC

- ◆ For the climate regime beyond 2012, it is important to maintain progress to meet the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC.
- ◆ The UNFCCC, ratified by 188 Parties, is the basis for international efforts to address climate change, and various mechanisms have been built under the UNFCCC. Therefore, it is appropriate to consider the next regime under the UNFCCC.

Achieving Global Participation

- ◆ Ensuring environmental integrity of the climate regime requires global participation. The climate regime beyond 2012 needs to achieve the participation of all countries, including the USA and developing countries.

Ensuring Equity Based on the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities

- ◆ In accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" of the UNFCCC, equity needs to be ensured between developed and developing countries, among developed countries and among developing countries.
- ◆ Differentiated commitments need to be developed in accordance with diverse national circumstances.
- ◆ Relative scale of total emissions from each country should be taken into consideration in addition to per capita emissions.

Negotiations Building on Existing International Agreements

- ◆ Through such invaluable efforts and agreements, such as the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, a common ground is being built for countries to take measures to address climate change.
- ◆ Building on these international agreements serving as the bases for negotiating the climate regime beyond 2012, further discussions are necessary on how to develop and improve the architecture of the Convention and the Protocol, bearing in mind such considerations as the need for maintaining progress towards meeting the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC and achieving global participation.

Continuously Discussing Details of the Next Regime

- ◆ Approaches towards achieving the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC
- ◆ Actions for adaptation to impacts of climate change
- ◆ Types of commitments
 - How strict should they be?
 - What form should they be?
- ◆ Incentives for countries to participate in the regime etc.

Post-Kyoto Discussion Procedures

◆ Berlin Mandate (COP1) → Kyoto Protocol (COP3)

Do we need a new mandate? If yes, when and how?

◆ Related Articles

- Kyoto Protocol Article 3.9 (Commitments for subsequent periods)
- Kyoto Protocol Article 9.2 (Review of the Protocol)
- FCCC Article 4.2 (d) (Review of the adequacy of the commitments)
- FCCC Article 7.2 (a) (Periodical examination of the obligations of the Parties)